GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2426
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
EXPORT OF FOOD PRODUCTS
Kumar Shri Shailendra

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch a comprehensive campaign for augmenting the export of Agriculture and processed food products to the Gulf countries;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made regarding the demand of said products in the Gulf countries;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for giving boost to export to the said countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (d): Third India-Gulf Cooperation Council Industrial and Investment Conference held in Mumbai in May 2007 identified agriculture as an important area of partnership between India and GCC countries. An Indian delegation led by Chairman, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) visited Saudi Arabia, UAE and Oman in September 2007 to assess the potential for export of agro-products and to attract investment from these countries into the Indian Agri-business sector. It was concluded that to enhance growth in Agricultural trade there was a need for brand promotion of premium Indian products apart from taking other steps. APEDA participated in selected exhibitions in Gulf countries to promote Indian Agricultural and processed food products. Other steps taken for giving boost to agricultural exports include Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana, promotion of Agri Exports Zones (AEZ), dissemination of information, financial assistance to registered exporters for market development and for quality development.